

Answers –NT doubles

1) Pass (“ content “) 2) 2D – a bit nervous but obvious escape with six diamonds

3) redouble – hard to imagine we wont make it ; there is another point to this bid,
Should an opponent now bid (say 2H) your partner will know that you have 10 + pts
and may decide to double the opps

4) double –there are alternatives e,g pass (bit feeble though) or 3NT (could make as
partner has 16+) ;double might well bring in 500+ pts which is the easy way to make a
living

5); there was a typo/error in some scripts (won't Phillida be pleased ?) ; the printed
hand belongs to East of course.

So what should East do now the double has been removed into 2C ?

Well they mustn't double as that would be a penalty (not a takeout)

NB if you start with a penalty double against 1NT ALL subsequent doubles are also
penalty.

Probably a call of 2D is as good as anything.

6) I must say this is not the easiest question ever set.

Still if we get rid of the really wrong answers we might arrive at a rightish one.

So ...cashing the K Hrts is poor play –it sets up the Q and we are nowhere nearer
beating the contract. NB it is not the setting trick.

Its (iii) or (iv) with (for me) a leaning towards (iii) .

7) we need to test the clubs to see if they are 3---3 AND test the diamonds to see if they
are 3-----2 and if all that failed (fnally) to take a finesse in hearts.

Strictly the diamond (3-2 break is the most likely 67%) and the club 3-3 break (36%) the
least ... but we are going to make a combination play.

This line works (and there will be others –the trick is to test without losing the lead) :

Ace spades : A + K + Q clubs (so now you know if that suit has broken) ; A + Q + K
diamonds (and ...you have found out if that suit broke) ...finally if nothing worked you
are in the right hand to try the heart finesse ; it would take me days to work out the odds
on something working but it is high.

8) (i) 2NT negative (ii) 4H (iii) 3Sp OR 3D

9) ok before answering this I will pose another question. Do you (really) think you have
much chance of beating this contract ? pretty scary (dangerous) dummy isnt it.?

And that's the key. When you are faced with a threatening dummy as this you need to
take a BIG chance and cross your fingers mutter imprecations and whatever else you
can think of. And then lead the King clubs.

